

PugetSoundPartnership

our sound, our community, our chance

\$10 Million for Puget Sound Recovery Projects

Background

In December 2008, the Puget Sound Partnership adopted the Action Agenda for the protection and restoration of Puget Sound by 2020. This plan identifies the completion of habitat restoration, wastewater and stormwater treatment upgrades and toxic clean-up projects essential to Puget Sound recovery.

\$10 Million in Governor's Capital Budget

The Governor's 2010 supplemental capital budget request released in December 2009 includes \$10 million for Puget Sound recovery projects, as part of the Puget Sound Partnership's budget. The funding is for prioritized projects that implement the Action Agenda. Many of these projects will break ground in 2010 and are important to implement the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. The proposed projects are the first \$10 million in a \$40 million project list developed by the Partnership to fund projects that support Action Agenda implementation.

Projects Implement the Action Agenda

Projects focus on restoring estuaries and river floodplain habitat; advancing the Puget Sound Nearshore General Investigation; and, implementing low impact development and stormwater management, wastewater treatment, and toxics cleanup. Many of these projects were drawn from work done to identify projects for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's economic stimulus funding for habitat restoration, as well as from Puget Sound watersheds' salmon recovery three-year work plans.

State Funding Fills Gaps and Provides Match to Federal Funding

In the recently adopted Federal Fiscal Year 2010 federal budget the Environmental Protection Agency was appropriated \$50 million for Puget Sound recovery projects and programs. Although no decision has yet been made a portion of these funds are likely to go to on the ground projects. This state contribution presents an opportunity to match the federal commitment and demonstrate the strength of the federal/state partnership to implement the Action Agenda for Puget Sound recovery. Additional state funding also provides an opportunity to fill important gaps for projects not ultimately funded by EPA.

Green Jobs and Progress towards Puget Sound Recovery

In addition to the environmental benefits, these projects will generate or save approximately 1,360 jobs, mostly in rural areas of the state during these difficult economic times. It is estimated that for each \$1 million invested in habitat restoration projects 34 jobs will be created.

The Governor's supplemental budget was submitted to the Washington State Legislature in December 2009. The legislature will convene in January to discuss and pass a supplemental budget in March 2010.

Project Summaries

- South Fork Acme Confluence Reach: Active Channel Logjams (Whatcom County) - Constructs stable log jams in the South Fork Nooksack to form deep pools with complex cover to improve holding and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon
- Asarco Contaminated piling removal and Commencement Bay Coastal & Marine Habitat Restoration Project (Pierce County) - Removes 2,300 contaminated pilings to allow completion of in-water remediation of toxic contamination at the Asarco Superfund site
- Carpenter Creek Estuary Restoration (Kitsap County) – Removes a culvert blocking fish passage and restores tidal function creating approximately 28 acres of estuary habitat
- Dungeness River Engineered Logjams (Clallam County) – Constructs 120 stable log jams over 20 miles of the Dungeness and Gray Wolf rivers
- South Fork Nooksack River and Tributaries Restoration Project (Whatcom County) – Removes a barrier to provide fish passage to 1.4 miles of river, placement of stable log jams, and 41 acres of riparian planting along 2,900 linear feet of stream and several adjoining wetlands
- Nooksack Forks LWD Placement Project (Whatcom County) – Construct 6 Large woody structures along 1.5 miles of the Middle Fork Nooksack River and augment 20 stable large wood structures on 5 channel islands in the North Fork Nooksack River
- Puget Sound General Investigation for Nearshore Restoration (Puget Sound-wide) – Conduct preliminary engineering and property assessments for a portfolio of priority nearshore restoration opportunities that would be eligible for federal funding through the US Army Corps of Engineers
- Venema Natural Drainage Systems Project (King County) – Design of low impact development techniques for 10 blocks (80 acres) to reduce stormwater runoff and achieve TMDL objectives in the most important subbasin of Seattle's Piper's Creek
- Bremerton Stormwater Retrofit/LID (Kitsap County) – Retrofit 5-8 blocks of streets and drainage systems in downtown Bremerton using low impact development strategies to reduce runoff to 303d-listed Sinclair Inlet
- Toxics Cleanup and Remedial Actions (varies) – Implement ready-to-go projects from Ecology's 2010 Supplemental Clean-Up Toxics and Puget Sound Remedial Action Grants list

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